U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

MR. WILLIAM J MAXWELL
UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH
608 SOUTH WRIGHT STREET
URBANA, IL 61801

November 9, 2007

Subject: HERNTON, CALVIN

FOIPA No. 1069072- 000

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552		Section 552a
☒(b)(1)	☐(b)(7)(A)	☐(d)(5)
☒(b)(2)	☐(b)(7)(B)	☐(j)(2)
☐(b)(3)_____	☒(b)(7)(C)	☐(k)(1)
_____	☒(b)(7)(D)	☐(k)(2)
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_____	☐(b)(7)(F)	☐(k)(4)
☐(b)(4)	☐(b)(8)	☐(k)(5)
☐(b)(5)	☐(b)(9)	☐(k)(6)
☒(b)(6)		☐(k)(7)

41 **page(s)** were reviewed and 41 **page(s)** are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice,1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s).

If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☐ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

(b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;

(b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;

(b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute(A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or

(b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

(d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;

(j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;

(k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;

(k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;

(k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;

(k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

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U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

100-417598

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ON 05-31-2007

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FORM No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT MEMPHIS

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MEMPHIS	3/14/55	12/18/54;1/3, 19,20,21,24,29; 2/14,3/1/55	[redacted] PS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

HERNTON, a student at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., was reported active in the defense of [redacted] refused to testify as to Communist activities when questioned by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Sept., 1954. HERNTON also reportedly espoused the Communist Party line in defense of [redacted] and in poetry composed by him. He has been observed in close association with persons previously identified as CP members. Identification record on CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON set out.

DETAILS: PREDICATION

This case is predicated upon receipt of information from Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, to the effect that CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON was one of the group at Fisk University active during the fall and winter of 1954 in behalf of [redacted] who refused to answer questions by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in September, 1954, concerning his affiliations with the Communist Party in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1941 and 1942.

Information was also received from Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, on December 18, 1954, to the effect that in the defense of [redacted] during the fall of 1954, HERNTON had espoused the Communist Party line. [redacted] also advised HERNTON wrote poetry which, according to informant, was in accord with CP lines.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 - Memphis (100-3382)

MAR 18 1955

MAR 25 1955

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Me#100-3382

He stated he did know he was staying around Nashville, and that he had observed him wearing blue jeans and felt he had some sort of employment; however, he had no specific information concerning this.

On August 1, 1955, [redacted] Fisk University, Nashville, advised that subject was not employed by Fisk University during the summer. He stated that he knew the subject was residing on the Fisk University campus but did not know exactly where he was residing. He stated he had observed the subject coming from the residence of [redacted] but did not know whether he was residing at that address.

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability but who has been recommended by his employer, advised on August 1, 1955, the subject is not gainfully employed for the summer of 1955 but is engaged in writing a book concerning, "The Recognition of Man."

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] which is a State Governmental Agency that maintains personnel type records, advised as of June 23, 1955 the subject was residing at 923 18th Avenue, North, Nashville, and was unemployed. He furnished the following description of subject:

Height	6'
Weight	168
Marital status	Single
Race	Negro
Social Security No.	415-48-7268
Principal occupation	Waiter
Past employment	1950, golf course, Chattanooga, Tennessee; 1951, American-London Shrinkers Corp., New York City; 1952, Hotel Theresa, New York City; 1953, Harvey's Restaurant, New York City; 1954, Drake and Watts Home for Children as House Counselor, Yonkers, N. Y.
Telephone No.	5-5055
Address	923 18th Ave., North, Nashville

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Me#100-3382

COMMUNIST PARTY AFFIL[redacted]

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] stated that the subject was residing in the residence of [redacted] both of whom are away from Nashville for the summer. Their address is in a house owned by Fisk University and is rented to [redacted] by that school. According to informant, subject is paying no rent and resides at that residence with two other students of Fisk University whose names the informant did not know other than their first names which were [redacted] stated that the subject is taking all of his meals with [redacted] at [redacted] According to informant, subject is receiving his meals free of charge. Informant stated so far as he knows the subject has not been gainfully employed during the summer of 1955, and that although he receives some money from his grandmother, he is only able to make ends meet by having free lodging and free meals. Informant stated that subject also gets free meals from other persons with whom he is friendly.

Informant st[redacted] mentioned the subject of Communism and in discussing [redacted] and [redacted] his only remarks have been that they have assisted him in getting his education and they are assisting him in his writing of the book which he is working on at the present time.

Informant stated it is his understanding that the book which subject is writing at the present time, and which concerns "The Recognition of Man" is principally the story of two individuals who are attending a college or university. One of these individuals is principally interested in exploitation of any persons over whom he can gain control, while the other is a poor but hard working character who is attempting to get an education, and who takes occasion throughout the book to explain to the other character the difference between right and wrong as concerns various phases of life which the average person will encounter.

Informant stated that the subject has been observed attending the Church of Christ located at 26th Avenue North and Jefferson Street in Nashville. Informant stated subject is not a member of this church and apparently is attending it in the company of a girl whom he is dating at the present time. According to informant, this girl is a member of the church.

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability but who has been described as being a person of integrity by people

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who know him, advised he is acquainted with subject but has never had occasion to discuss any matter with the subject which would indicate any Communist affiliations. This informant stated that the subject appears to be very hard up financially and that he has "sponged" several meals off of informant, and that it is informant's understanding that the informant has a free place to live at the residence of a professor of Fisk University.

[redacted] is [redacted] According to information appearing on Pages 2675, 2682, 2701, 2718, 2719 and 2820 of the Hearings of the House Committee on un-American Activities, one [redacted] in testimony before the HCUA on [redacted] in Washington, D. C., identified [redacted] as a member of the Communist Party, Cincinnati. He also stated that [redacted] attended a meeting of the Communist Party, Cincinnati, on July 1, 1941 which was important because of the change in the Communist Party line at that time.

[redacted] in testimony before the HCUA on [redacted] stated that [redacted] was [redacted] to the American Youth Congress in Philadelphia July 3, 4 and 5, 1941 from the Teachers Union, Cincinnati. [redacted] according to his own statement to the witness, stood high in the Communist Party. She also stated that [redacted] told her he was interested in the "packing" of Local 65 of the Wholesalers and Retailers Union of New York City by the Communist Party.

An article appeared in the Nashville Banner, a local newspaper published in Nashville, Tennessee, on September 16, 1954, stating that [redacted] had appeared before a Hearing of a Sub-Committee on a House Committee on un-American Activities at Dayton, Ohio, at which time he refused to testify concerning his Communist Party activities in Cincinnati in 1940 and 1941.

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted], an individual who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that as of March 24, 1943, [redacted] was a dues paying member of the Communist Party in Boston, Massachusetts where she was then living.

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Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] an individual who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that [redacted] attended the New England District Convention of the Communist Party held August 11 and 12, 1945 at Boston, Massachusetts.

In December of 1943 it was observed by Agents of the FBI that [redacted] at that time [redacted] was present and conducted the major part of a Communist Party Meeting at the home of [redacted] on [redacted] The Agents further observed that [redacted] was present at that meeting.

In December of 1943 [redacted] to [redacted] stated that [redacted] was at that time an active Communist Party worker.

The Communist Party, USA, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On August 19, 1955, CALVIN COLLIDGE HERNTON was interviewed by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] At this time he denied that he was a member of the Communist Party or had ever been approached by anyone to join the Communist Party. He stated that he does not know anyone that is a Communist or a member of the Communist Party.

HERNTON stated that he was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1932 and is now twenty-three years of age. He advised that he graduated from high school in Chattanooga and went to Talladega College in Talladega, Alabama where he studied sociology and graduated in 1954. Prior to his graduation from high school he was involved in a breaking and entering case in Chattanooga and convicted on two counts. He stated that this was the result of bad companions, and that he was put on probation by the court and paroled to a [redacted] for whom his mother worked. He was given a sentence of three years probation on each of the two counts to run consecutively, thus making a total of six years. He stated that this six years will end this year.

HERNTON advised that he came to Nashville, Tennessee in September of 1954 and has been here since. He advised that he is taking work at Fisk University, and that during the summer of 1955 he has been engaged in writing a book, which at present he calls "The Recognition of Man." He stated that he has only had one job during the summer and that was for only a day. He stated that he has no income other than money given him but that he is

not spending much money. He advised that he is staying at the residence of [redacted] free of charge. He stated that he was planning to stay in Nashville for the summer and [redacted] got him to stay at his house because there had been some instances of break-ins during the summer of 1954 while he was gone. He advised that two other men, [redacted] and [redacted], are also staying there. He stated that [redacted] is planning to move in in the near future.

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HERNTON stated that he has never known much about Communism and has never studied it particularly. He advised that he read the Communist Manifesto when he was a freshman in college in connection with one of his courses. He stated that he only has a vague recollection at this time of what was in the document and has not read it since then. He stated that he would not know what to look for in trying to recognize a Communist. He stated that he is not interested in Communism and advised that his principal interest is in his writing and because of this he does not know what goes on around him. He stated that he very seldom talks to men and that most of his conversations are with girls.

The following description was obtained by personal observation:

Race	Colored
Sex	Male
Height	6'
Weight	170
Build	Slim
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown (wears shell rim glasses)
Peculiarities	Wears heavy beard on cheeks, long sideburns, wide mustache
Age	23
Occupation	Student, writer
Voice	Low, modulated

During the interview it was noted that there was a book of poetry by DON WEST in his possession. He was asked about this book and stated that it was borrowed from a student at Meharry Medical School whom he only knew as "T.J." He stated that he met "T.J." over a beer and was discussing poetry and "T.J." gave him the book and suggested that he read it. He stated that he had read it

Wow → this is [illegible] Cars. into [illegible]

but did not think much of it. He remarked that his favorite poet is WALT WHITMAN.

[redacted] was interviewed May 23, 1955 by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] He admitted that he was a member of the Communist Party [redacted] He denied present membership.

Regarding [redacted] it is noted that PAUL CROUCH, a former member and official of the Communist Party, has advised that [redacted]. CROUCH also stated that [redacted] was married to [redacted] the CP for a number of years. CROUCH stated further that [redacted] has another sister, [redacted] who is married to [redacted] who later became [redacted] the CP in [redacted] herself, attended a national CP training school in [redacted] according to CROUCH.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File Number where Located
[redacted]	Activities of the subject, 8-1-55	8-1-55	[redacted]	100-3382, instant report

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T-symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

[redacted] requested his name be kept confidential.

[redacted]	Activities of the subject and information concerning a book written by subject	8-2-55	[redacted]	100-3382, instant report

[redacted] name is being carried under temporary symbol inasmuch as consideration is being given to developing her as a Potential Security Informant.

[redacted]	Past employment and background information on subject	8-1-55	[redacted]	100-3382, instant report

[redacted] name is being carried as confidential in view of the confidential nature of the records of his office.

[redacted]	Activities of the subject	8-2-55	[redacted]	100-3382, instant report

[redacted] name is being kept confidential in view of the fact that [redacted] is the [redacted] and consideration is being given to the development of [redacted]

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File Number where Located
[redacted]	[redacted] 3-24-43 CP membership	8-11-43	[redacted]	100-2671-55
	[redacted] attendance at New England CP Convention	9-6-45	[redacted]	Boston File 100-9822-76 Memphis File 100-2671-55

[redacted] The Agents observing the meeting at the home of [redacted] on December 1, 1943 are [redacted]

It was observed by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] that at no time during the interview did subject speak up in favor of any Communist activity, and to the contrary, he was mildly critical of the writings of DON WEST. He appears to be intelligent but the type of vague intellectual who is in a fog most of the time. He apparently desires to lead a somewhat Bohemian existence and is conscious of the fact that the people with whom he is living and eating are alleged to be Communists. It makes no difference to him so long as he is getting free food and lodging. He appeared to be truthful when stating that his only interest was his writing and women. There appears to be no reason to continue the investigation of the subject and it is not believed by SAS [redacted] and [redacted] that he would be realistic enough at this time [redacted]

great! FBI anti-modernist!

REFERENCE

Memphis letter to Bureau dated 6-20-55.

Anti-Semitic

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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Director, FBI 8/29/69

Legat, London (157-125)(P)

CHANGED
CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
~~RM~~

CALVIN C.

ReLONlet 12/23/68

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Title is changed to reflect the spelling of the surname as HERNTON, not HERNDON, as previously set forth.

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(3) - Bureau (Encs. 4)
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1 - London
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Cutting from MORNING STAR
Dated: 12.7.69.

Refere...

RACIALISM AND SEX

by MOIRA MARTIN

SOON AFTER the war a young woman walked in a group between an African and her blond, blue-eyed husband. The African was carrying her blond blue-eyed baby. This scene so excited a passing American that he remarked: "We give them Marshall Aid, and that's what they do!"

Not long ago an Israeli Jew working in Germany was implored by a German woman to impregnate her. Bearing a half-Jewish bastard was her way of atoning for the crimes of the nazis—who included her father.

These examples of quite irrational behaviour have both racial and sexual connotations. I mention them because I think that the majority of Europeans are likely to find it very difficult to accept Sex and Racism (Andre Deutsch, 25s) as more than the exaggerations of an obsessed mind.

On the contrary, I am certain all that the author, Calvin C. Hernton, says is fundamentally true. Furthermore it needs saying in a society which—in patches at any rate—is becoming multi-racial.

His picture of racialism and sex in the United States, where both whites and blacks suffer deeply in a vile emotional and irrational atmosphere, should be read and pondered. The sexual aspect of racialism there is based upon the fact that although white folklore has it that Negro men lust after white women, the 80 per cent plus of Negroes who have white blood in them were virtually all born of Negro mothers impregnated by white men and not of white mothers impregnated by black men. Everyone knows this, yet the mythology persists.

In Britain

Where I disagreed with Calvin Hernton is in his appraisal of the situation in Britain. Our racialism was largely practised overseas. The result is that we at home are not in any comparable degree laden with the sexual guilt and jealousy of the Americans.

This is not in any way to deny that racialism (including sexual racialism) is rampant in Britain. But, in my opinion, it is due rather to a lack of contact between the races than to one-way sexual contacts.

Mr. Hernton says: ". . . never since the white people of England came into contact with the coloured races of the world has the situation between them been completely devoid of some kind of sexual involvement, either real or vicarious."

Get-togethers

I would say that sexual relations take place wherever people come together in whatever capacity, irrespective of race or nationality. They take place on holiday, on travel connected with work; they took place in the concentration camps, and in all the occupied countries both during and after the war.

My main objection to this book is the sloppy writing. We are told that Mr. Hernton is a sociologist. This makes his subjective presentation, his unsubstantiated statements and his undisciplined approach inexcusable.

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT MEMPHIS

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	6/20/55	4/19;5/26,27,31; 6/13,14/55	[redacted] ME

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON	SECURITY MATTER - C

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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject remains at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., where he is planning to work for the summer. Subject identified as being identical with CALVIN HERNTON, Chattanooga, Tenn. PD # 11838, who was arrested and convicted on charges of burglary and larceny in 1949, and arrested in 1950 for attempted highway robbery. Subject not known to be active in matters of Communist nature at present.

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DETAILS: BACKGROUND DATA

Residence and Occupation

On May 31, 1955, [redacted] Clerk, Registrant's Office, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, advised that CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON was still at Fisk University and that although the school year was completed he was remaining at the school. She stated that his home address was still listed in the school records as 2112 East Third Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, but did not know whether or not he would return to Chattanooga for the summer.

On June 14, 1955, [redacted] was re-contacted, at which time she stated that HERNTON was still at Fisk University; that she had observed him on the campus in the company of [redacted] and that she understood that both of them were intending to stay at Fisk University for the summer of 1955 where they plan to work with

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JUN 1955

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the Race Relations Institute. She stated that they would not be taking any courses at the school but apparently would be paid a small salary by the Race Relations Department. She also advised that the subject was attempting to get a scholarship to attend Graduate School at Fisk University for the school year of 1955-56.

On June 14, 1955, [redacted] as well as [redacted], both in the Registrar's Office at Fisk University, Nashville, observed a photograph of CALVIN HERNTON taken July 12, 1949 by the Chattanooga, Tennessee Police Department, their No. 11838. They both identified this photograph as being a photograph of the subject.

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Criminal Record

[redacted] Chattanooga Police Department, Chattanooga, Tennessee, advised SA [redacted] on May 26, 1955 that according to the records of his office under Police Department No. 11838, CALVIN HERNTON was arrested on July 10, 1949, charged with burglary and two cases of larceny. The Police Department records reflect that CALVIN HERNTON was bound over to the Hamilton County Grand Jury in lieu of $10,000 bond and a notation appears in the file dated September 13, 1949, reflecting that HERNTON was sentenced to three years at the State Training School on each of the above three cases, two to run concurrently, making a total of six years. The file also reflects that on March 21, 1950, CALVIN HERNTON was again arrested by the Chattanooga, Tennessee Police Department on a charge of attempted highway robbery. At that time he was identified by the victim and was reportedly armed with a P-38 Pistol. This case was taken to the Grand Jury but on April 19, 1950 a no true bill was returned.

[redacted], Records Clerk, Chattanooga, Hamilton County Juvenile Court, advised SA [redacted] on May 27, 1955 that a thorough search of her records failed to reflect any record of a CALVIN HERNTON.

[redacted] State Training and Agricultural School for Colored Boys at Pikeville, Tennessee, advised SA [redacted] on April 19, 1955 that the files of his office failed to reflect any record of a CALVIN HERNTON being incarcerated.

A photograph of CALVIN HERNTON, Chattanooga Police Department No. 11838, taken July 12, 1949, was exhibited to [redacted] Howard High School, and to [redacted] Howard High School, both Chattanooga, Tennessee, on May 26, 1955 and they immediately identified the photograph as being identical with CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON who graduated from

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ME # 100-3382

Howard High School on May 26, 1950. [redacted] stated that HERNTON attended the high school from September 4, 1947 to May 26, 1950. His date of birth was listed as April 28, 1932 at Chattanooga, Tennessee, and his mother was listed as MAGNOLIA JACKSON, 1335 Slaton Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee. His father was listed as JOHN HERNTON.

Both of the above advised SA [redacted] on May 26, 1955 that it was their recollection that HERNTON had been arrested while attending Howard High School and charged with some local crime, however, both stated that it was their opinion that the charges had been dismissed. HERNTON was released and allowed to re-enter Howard High School. Both stated it would have been impossible under present rules and regulations for HERNTON to have continued his education at Howard High School without having been cleared of the charges placed against him by the Chattanooga Police Department.

Chattanooga City Detectives [redacted] and [redacted] were interviewed by SA [redacted] on May 26, 1955, at which time both advised they were unable to recall any of the details concerning either of the arrests listed above. Both stated that they would definitely have recalled any comments or indications on the part of the subject that he possessed Communist Party sympathies.

Also, [redacted] and [redacted] Howard High School, Chattanooga, Tennessee, advised SA [redacted] that they had no knowledge of Communist Party sympathies on the part of the subject during the period of time they were acquainted with him.

On June 13, 1955, Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted], who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that in his observations of the activities on the Fisk University campus, there has been no evidence of any activity on the part of the subject in connection with what the Informant would consider Communist Party activities.

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INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File No. Where Located
[redacted]	Lack of activity on Fisk University campus on the part of subject.	6/13/55	SA [redacted]	100-3382, instant report

[redacted] is a [redacted] He has been acquainted with activities of persons connected with Fisk University who have been identified in the past as having been members of the Communist Party. He requested his name be kept confidential in view of his position [redacted]

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T- symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

- L E A D S -

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION:

AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Will if Bureau authority is obtained, interview the subject.

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated March 14, 1955 at Memphis.
Knoxville letter to Memphis, 6/3/55.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 20, 1955

FROM : SAC, Memphis (100-3382)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 05-25-2007 BY AUC 60324 BAW/RS/SEZ

SUBJECT: CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
SM - C

SECURITY INFORMANT PROGRAM -
MEMPHIS DIVISION

BACKGROUND

Date and Place of Birth -- April 28, 1932, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Marital Status -- Single

Race and Citizenship -- Colored; U.S.A.

Education -- Bachelor of Arts Degree, Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama, June, 1954; Graduate work, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, Sociology, 1954-55.

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Present and Recent Employment -- Student.

Present Residence -- Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee

FBI
JUN 21 1955

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITY

Subject has been active in the defense of [redacted] who refused to testify as to Communist Party Activities when questioned by the HCUA in December, 1954. He reportedly espoused CP line in defense of [redacted] and in poetry composed by him has made statements considered to be revolutionary by Informants. He has also been observed in close association with persons previously identified as CP members.

PLAN OF APPROACH

The subject is presently residing on the campus of Fisk University and is employed in the Race Relations Institute, which is also located on the Fisk University campus.

FWN:ME
(4)
100-3382
REGISTERED MAIL
Enclosures

RECORDED-35
INDEXED-35
JUN 24 1955
APPROVED
Submit results in report
Date 8-27-55
100-417598-
66 JUL 1 1955

1 cc: ME # 100-3221

It is known that HERNTON frequents business establishments at the corner of 18th and Jefferson Streets, Nashville, near the Fisk University campus, where he purchases food and clothing. He has been observed by Agents of the Memphis Division from time to time and it is felt that by surveillance opportunity will arise to approach him on the street near the Fisk University campus and an interview can be obtained. b2

Bureau authority is requested to interview this subject in accordance with existing instructions relating to interviews of security subjects. If this subject is cooperative, no affirmative steps will be taken during the initial interview to direct his activities but a separate communication will be directed to the Bureau setting forth the results of the interview and requesting

[redacted]

There is being transmitted herewith a pending current report concerning subject's activities.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 30, 1955

FROM : SAC, Memphis (100-3382)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 05-25-2007 BY AUC 60324 BAW/RS/SEZ

SUBJECT: CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
SM - C

[redacted]

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MEMPHIS DIVISION

There is transmitted herewith the report of SA [redacted] dated August 30, 1955 at Memphis, setting forth the results of an interview with the subject. It is not [redacted]

FWN:FJ
(4)

cc: Me-100-3221

(enc-4) REGISTERED MAIL

RECORDED-29

1955

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60324 BAW/RS/SEE
ON 05-31-2007

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT MEMPHIS

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	8-30-55	7-19,29; 8-1,2,3,5,12, 15,19-55	[redacted] FJ

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON FBI'S MARXIAN LIT. CULT., AGAIN!	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject is presently residing at the residence of [redacted] who are away from Nashville, Tenn. for the summer. Both of these persons have been identified in the past as being CP members. Subject is taking meals with [redacted] who has been identified in the past as a CP member. Informant advised subject is writing book on "The Recognition of Man." He has been attending church within the past few months; has not indicated to informant that he has any CP affiliations. Subject on interview advised he is not and has never been a member of CP and takes no interest in anything other than his work.

- C -

Remarks: [illegible]
AGENCY [illegible]
REQ. REC'D [illegible]
DATE FORW. 10/16/62
HOW FORW. [illegible]
BY [illegible]

DETAILS: BACKGROUND DATA

Residence

On August 1, 1955, Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the subject is residing at 923 18th Avenue, South, Nashville, which is the residence of [redacted] and [redacted]

Employment

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] advised he did not know where the subject was employed during the summer of 1955.

COPIES DESTROYED

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 8 SEP 2015 SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

RECORDED-23
INDEXED-23

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
4- Bureau (RM)
3- Memphis (100-3382)
Sent to Legat London 9/12/69
per their request by letter 8/29/69
RM: PEN/ai

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—59255-1

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BACKGROUND

Birth Data

[redacted] Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, advised on February 14, 1955, records of her office indicated that CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON was born April 28, 1932, at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Citizenship

HERNTON is a citizen of the United States by virtue of birth.

Education

[redacted], above mentioned, on February 14, 1955, stated the records of her office indicated subject graduated from Howard High School, Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1950. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree at Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama, in June, 1954. His major was sociology. She advised he entered Fisk University in September, 1954, as a graduate student in the field of sociology. He gave as references [redacted] and [redacted] stated HERNTON gave his home address as 2112 East Third Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

[redacted] Clerk, Howard High School, Chattanooga, Tennessee, advised SA [redacted] that the records of Howard High School indicated HERNTON attended that school from September 4, 1947, until April 26, 1950. He was principally interested in social sciences, and his date of birth was listed as April 28, 1932, at Chattanooga, and his address was given as 1335 Slayton Street, Chattanooga. The information was furnished to SA [redacted] in connection with another investigation.

Marital Status

[redacted] above mentioned, on February 14, 1955, advised the records of Fisk University indicate HERNTON is single.

Military Service Record

[redacted], above mentioned, on February 14, 1955, advised records of Fisk University did not indicate HERNTON had ever been a member of the armed forces.

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ME #100-3382

Identification Record

[redacted] Identification Division, Chattanooga Police Department, Chattanooga, Tennessee, advised SA [redacted] in January, 1955, in connection with another investigation that his records reflect an arrest record for one CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON, who was arrested by the Chattanooga Police Department and sentenced to three years in the State Training School on September 13, 1949. This arrest was in connection with two burglaries, the sentences to run concurrently. [redacted] advised that HERNTON was again arrested on March 21, 1950, for attempt to commit highway robbery. He stated, however, a grand jury on April 19, 1950, failed to return an indictment. The records revealed that HERNTON had no prior FBI identification record.

The following description of CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON as of 1950 was obtained from the Chattanooga Police Department:

Name	CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Birth	4/28/32, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Height	6'
Weight	152
Eyes	Maroon
Hair	Black
Complexion	Brown
Residence	1335 Slayton St., Chattanooga, Tenn.
Mother	MAGNOLIA JACKSON, 2112 East Third St., Chattanooga, Tenn.

On February 14, 1955, [redacted] Records Office, Tennessee State Penitentiary, Nashville, Tennessee, advised all of the records of prisoners who are sent to the State Training School for Negro Boys are maintained at that institution which is located at Pikeville, Tennessee. She stated there is no record of CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON who was arrested at Chattanooga in files at the State Penitentiary.

Employment

The subject is not known to have been employed except as a student.

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ME #100-3382

Residence

The directory for Fisk University for 1954 lists the address of CALVIN C. HERNTON, a graduate student in the Sociology Department, as residing at 907 28th Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee.

[redacted] advised that no one by the name of HERNTON resided at that address and stated they had not taken any roomers in at all.

[redacted] Fisk University, advised on February 14, 1955, that the directory was in error and subject's address in Nashville is [redacted]

The Nashville City Directory for 1954 lists the occupant of [redacted]

REVOLUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on December 18, 1954, he had never heard subject make any revolutionary statement verbally but that he had heard subject talking in various "bull sessions" at Fisk University during the fall of 1954 in which he apparently was following the CP line, particularly in regard to his defense of [redacted] who, according to informant, had been subpoenaed to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities at Dayton, Ohio, in September, 1954, at which time he refused to answer questions concerning his Communist affiliations or activities while a student at the University of Cincinnati in 1941 and 1942. Informant pointed out that [redacted]

Informant pointed out that [redacted] had a small group working in his behalf and that subject was one of these individuals. He stated that in listening to subject talk in defense of [redacted] he noted that subject attempted to confuse the issue by indicating that the reason [redacted] was called before the Committee was because he had been active in behalf of the negro people in attempting to secure equal rights for them in the south; that he had been active in efforts to desegregate the public schools in the south by attempting to enter his daughter, a white child, in a negro school in Nashville, Tennessee; and he had been active

in the NAACP. Informant stated this was not the question and the HCUA had only been interested in [redacted] activities insofar as his Communist affiliations and the Communist Party activities in Cincinnati area were concerned. He pointed out, however, by attempting to confuse the issue, it was felt by those working with [redacted] they could gain a larger following.

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Informant stated that while he had never heard subject make any statements verbally which he considered to be outright revolutionary, he had come into possession of copies of some poems which were written by subject which he stated appeared to be revolutionary insofar as he was concerned. He pointed out specifically the statement in a poem entitled, "The Poet" which was wound up by the subject as follows:

"Enemy beware---
My fist is clenched
To strike you dead!"

Informant stated this, taken in connection with the rest of the poem, appeared to be somewhat revolutionary. He also brought attention to the poem entitled "The Lynchers", which he stated was somewhat revolutionary and certainly followed the Communist Party line. These two poems are set out as follows:

lit. crit.

"Calvin C. Hernton

"THE LYNCHERS

"Once more the lynchers reach out.
The victims vary:
A lawyer, a preacher ... a worker,
Novelist, poet ... or a professor
at a southern university.
But the rope is there, the rope is always there.

the rope of an editorial ... political, religious rope,
economic.
Lynch by smear, hatred, by creed and fear ... by
money, as murderous as firing squard ... on an atom bomb.

Once more the summoners ... summon. The recallers
recall. The cash-register of a lying tongue
rings.

Once more the historic word, the slogan ... the cyanide
lables that have bloodied man's record for progress
through the years:
Barbarian! Christian! Jew! Anarchist!
Abolitionist! Socialist! Red!

LIT. CMT. → PBI
after only extract
copy or
see
poem :
a
pursuer of
lit.
hist.

ME #100-3382

"O yes ... the lynchers reach out in all directions ...
with money-lust wielding their swords...
murdering as blind men murder for one's tongue or color,
belief or faith of God...
Locked in robe and ordained in power...
progress on their lips and knowledge shining
in their eyes.
embracing truth and justice
as a vain woman her love.

- - - - - - -

"Calvin C. Hernton

"POET

"Sometime or another
A poet
Must speak his piece...
For who shall speak
If he doesn't?

1) Dark were the days
of my childhood
Hunger and nakedness
And the cold night air
Of December
Were my enemies.

2) I remember adolesence
Without sweet dreams.
Born too soon...
Rejected and Dejected...
Shadow on my skin...a Negro
I learned misery
The hard way.

3) Youth,
An autumn-long thing,
Came with unfulfilled desires:
Desires of the body...
Desires of the mind...
Desires of the flesh...
Burning desires of Spring-time
Evaporating
In an Autumn-naked room.

"Now all these things are past...
Today, I approach Manhood.

1) Still the pygmies of memory follow me.
Subconscious over-lapings of
Lamented yesteryears taunt my being.

2) Bitter, I say,
Is today!
Poverty and longliness and hate...
In my path they stand wide-leg
To strike me down,
Before soon-dawn tomorrow
Fifteen million mouths
Open wide with my song.

But I am not afraid...

1) I know full well now
Only my own weak voice,
Spoken for the cause of the common man,
Strong as the coming of new generations,
Can make my prison-bound song free.
No longer the solitude song.
No longer shall I cry
With blue heart and lonely lips:
"O Muse...
It is I, a stranger,
Who sing this onely en-circumstanced
Song!"

That day is past...

For now,
In my voice...
My weak unheard voice
Where no stranger speaks...
A firey song
Blazes against the sky.
Bitter with the sorrow of
The past,
Yet sweet with the purpose of
The future
Ripe,
Robust,
With pulse and fire
The Common Man I sing!

"The passive song is done...

And though I walk in quiet mood
With pensive head...

Enemy, Beware !...

My fist is clinched
To strike you dead !

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The informant furnished copies of other poems written by subject; however, it is believed these were the only two which contained revolutionary statements.

On September 15, 1954, [redacted] referred to above, was subpoenaed to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities sitting in Dayton, Ohio. He appeared before the Committee on that date at which time he refused to answer questions concerning past affiliations with the Communist Party USA in the Cincinnati area, his subpoena being based upon testimony of [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom had previously testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on July 12, 1950, to the effect [redacted] was known to them as a member of the CP in Cincinnati in 1941 or 1942. [redacted] refused to answer questions basing his refusal upon the provisions of the First Amendment of the Constitution.

On November 18, 1954, [redacted] was cited for contempt of Congress for his refusal to answer questions.

The Communist Party USA has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] on January 3, 1955, advised he had never heard subject make any statements which could be construed to be Communistic in nature. He pointed out he had never talked to subject and had been in his presence on very few occasions. This informant stated, however, he had observed subject in very close contact with the group working among students in connection with the [redacted] case. He pointed out he had observed him in the company of [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom, according to informant, were very

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ME #100-3382

active in the defense of [redacted] and both of whom became so involved they violated some school regulations and were consequently called before the Executive Committee of the school. As a result of the hearing, both of them who were graduate students and who had jobs helping pay their expenses through school lost their jobs and were required to move out of the dormitories where they were furnished quarters. He also stated he had observed him in the company of [redacted] and [redacted]

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised [redacted] had been observed attending meetings of the Young Progressives of America regularly at Antioch College in Ohio from 1950 to 1954.

Confidential Informant [redacted], of known reliability, has advised that while the Young Progressives of America is not a Communist dominated organization, it receives support of the Communist Party and consists of both Communist and non-Communist youth.

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability, advised he [redacted] at Antioch College of [redacted] and stated if [redacted] is not already at the "core" of the Communist movement, he would certainly attain that position in the future. He stated [redacted] seemed to be very well schooled in Marxist theory and was not saying it merely because the Communists sympathized with him.

On April 25, 1951, Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that [redacted] was a firm believer in Communism and was at that time active in the Communist Party in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

[redacted] Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, advised on January 29, 1955, he knew of no specific statements made by subject indicating Communist activities. He stated, however, he had heard other students make the statement HERNTON was one of the group of graduate students who were defending [redacted] and state HERNTON had made remarks in "bull sessions" which indicated he followed the Communist Party line. He could not repeat any of the statements which were made to him. He stated he had observed HERNTON in very close association with [redacted]

On January 29, 1955, [redacted] at Fisk University, advised he knows subject and stated he had always

considered him to be a dull fellow mentally and had observed HERNTON was rather quiet on the campus. He stated, however, he had noted that HERNTON was very closely in association with [redacted],

[redacted] stated he had also heard HERNTON make remarks in "bull sessions" around the dormitory at Fisk University which he, [redacted] considered to be Communistic. He stated he could not at the time he was interviewed recall what the statements were but remarked he knew they were made in connection with the defense of [redacted] He stated that at the time they were made, he knew HERNTON was one of the group defending [redacted] and inasmuch as he considered all of them to be Communisticly inclined, he had paid very little attention to what HERNTON was saying; therefore, he cannot at this time recall the remarks he made. He stated he considered [redacted] to be the leader of the graduate students who were defending [redacted] and stated it had been his observation that HERNTON had been more or less pushed into the background by the others who were interested in the case inasmuch as they apparently felt he did not have the ability to express himself well enough to take a leading roll. [redacted] stated it was also his impression that HERNTON was principally a protege of [redacted]

[redacted] a student at Fisk University, advised on January 29, 1955, he knows HERNTON and had observed his activities in connection with the [redacted] case. [redacted] pointed out he roomed in the dormitory at Fisk University, and his room was so located he could observe the residence of [redacted] at Fisk University. He stated that [redacted] was a very close associate of [redacted] and very active in [redacted] defense. [redacted] stated that every morning he observed [redacted] and on some occasions one or two other students going to [redacted] house about 7 o'clock in the morning. He stated they must have gone there to pick up mimeographed propaganda sheets inasmuch as they would have nothing with them when they went in, but would come out with stacks of mimeographed propaganda sheets which he would subsequently see them distributing on the campus. He pointed out these were known to be active in circulating petitions among the students in behalf of [redacted] and they misrepresented the facts of [redacted] case to the students in an effort to get them to defend him.

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He stated he had heard HERNTON make one or two statements in "bull sessions" in the dormitory in defense of [redacted] which statements he recalled as being Communistic. He stated, however, he had paid very little attention to them at the time and, therefore, at this time cannot remember what the statements were.

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ME #100-3382

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] another Governmental agency which conducts intelligence investigations, in February of 1945 stated his files reflected that [redacted] was registered as a CP member as of December 18, 1943, and had been a CP member for nine months prior to that time.

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that [redacted] received a transfer from Troy, New York, branch of the CP to the New York City branch, which transfer was dated March 21, 1944, and signed by [redacted]. It was issued in the name [redacted]

[redacted] Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee, advised on January 19, 1955, [redacted] the subject but stated he had noted nothing to indicate he was espousing any Communist Party line.

On January 20, 1955, [redacted] a graduate of Fisk University and who is employed by the school in a [redacted] advised she is acquainted with HERNTON but has no specific information concerning him.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Memphis Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that subject is described as follows:

Name	CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Height	6' to 6' 1"
Weight	150 to 160
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Complexion	Medium brown
Residence	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Scars & Marks	None noted
Marital Status	Single
Education	Talladega College, Talladega, Ala.
Employment	None known
Characteristics	Very quiet and reserved.

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ME #100-3382

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File Number where Located
[redacted]	Subject's activities in defense of [redacted] and description	1/3/55	[redacted]	ME#100-3382-3
	Info on activities of subject in connection with [redacted] case	12/18/54	" "	ME#100-3382-2
	Activities of [redacted]	4/26/54	[redacted]	
	Documentation of Young Progressives of America			CI#100-00-441
	Info relating to [redacted]	9/23/54	[redacted]	
	CP affiliation on part of [redacted]	4/25/51	[redacted]	MP-66-2378
[redacted] SA [redacted]	CP affiliation of [redacted]			CI#100-9324-42

ME #100-3382

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CON'T.)

INFORMANTS (CON'T.)

T-8 Trash Cover, CP Headquarters, Schenectady, NY	CP membership of [redacted]	CI#100-10726-5

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THE KNOXVILLE DIVISION

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

Will talk to the police officers who arrested CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON 9/13/49 and again 3/21/50 and determine the background of the cases against him and any possible indication which he might have given of Communist sympathies at that time.

Will obtain a photograph of CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON who was arrested by the Chattanooga Police Department if such is available.

Will attempt through interviews with police officers and personnel at Howard High School to determine if the CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON arrested by the Chattanooga Police Department is definitely identical with subject who attended Howard High School at Chattanooga.

AT PIKEVILLE, TENNESSEE

Will check the records of the State Training School for Negro Boys and interview such persons connected with that institution who could give information concerning HERNTON which would be of value in determining his possible Communist sympathies and which might suggest some basis of approach to cause him to be cooperative upon an interview. Will obtain a photo of subject from the files of this institution.

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION

AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Will follow activities of subject in Nashville.

ME #100-3382

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CON'T.)

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION (CON'T.)

AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE (CON'T.)

Will upon receipt of information from the Knoxville Division, request the Bureau to grant authority to interview subject.

REFERENCE: Knoxville letter to Memphis 1/31/55 in case entitled [redacted] SM-C"

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 05-25-2007 BY AUC 60324 BAW/RS/SE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/6/55

FROM : SAC, Memphis (100-3382)

SUBJECT: CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
SECURITY MATTER - C
(OO: Memphis)

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Re report of SA [redacted] dated 8/30/55 at Memphis, Tennessee.

The date appearing in line four, paragraph two, page seven, of instant report should read 1947 instead of 1941.

It is requested that copies at the Bureau be appropriately changed. Copies at Memphis are being changed.

FTJN:mfs
(3)

100-417598

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 05-25-2007 BY AUC 60324 BAW/RS/SEZ

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 10/4/63

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-151780)(C)

SUBJECT: CALVIN HERNTON
SM-C

b6
b7C

(OO: New York)

ReBulet dated 12/12/56, captioned "COMMUNIST PUBLICATIONS - AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION; IS-C".

The July, 1963 issue of "Mainstream" contains two poems written by CALVIN HERNTON entitled "The Underlying Strife" and "Young Negro Poet". HERNTON also wrote a short story entitled "Never Alone in the World", which appears on page 184 of the Spring, 1963 issue of "Freedomways". HERNTON is also described as one of the founders of a new literary magazine, "UMBRA".

A review of the NYO indices reflected no information identifiable with the subject or the publication "UMBRA".

On 9/18/63, a representative of the Bureau of Special Services, NYCPD, advised SA [redacted] that their records contained no information identifiable with the subject.

Public sources at the NYC Public Library, 42nd St. and Fifth Ave., NYC, were reviewed on 9/17/63, and failed to reflect any information identifiable with the subject. The following sources were utilized:

Readers Guide To Periodical Literature 1961-1962 and current file, published by H. W. Wilson Co.

The Book Review Digest, published by H. W. Wilson Co.

International Index, "A Guide to Periodical Literature In the Social Science and Humanities", published by H. W. Wilson Co.

100-417598-5

REC-29

14 OCT 8 1963

EX-112

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - New York
CDB:kp
(3)

63 OCT 15 1963

SUBV CONTROL

The following confidential informants of the NYO who have knowledge of various phases of CP activity in the NY area advised during Sept., 1963, that they could furnish no information concerning the subject.

[redacted]

b2
b7D

In view of the above, no further investigation is being conducted by NY.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-417598) DATE: 11/8/63

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-151780)

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

SUBJECT: CALVIN HERNTON
SM-C

ReBureau routing slip to New York 10/15/63, NYlet to Memphis 10/29/63, and report of SA [redacted] at Memphis dated 3/14/55.

ReNYlet advised that subject wrote two poems which appeared in the July, 1963, issue of "Mainstream" and an article which appeared in the Spring, 1963, issue of "Freedomways". HERNTON was described as one of the founders of a new literary magazine, "UMBRA".

On 10/30/63, [redacted] furnished a copy of "UMBRA" to SA [redacted] dated Winter, 1963. [redacted] stated that he had picked up the publication in the hearing room.

For information of Memphis, above publication lists the following information concerning CALVIN C. HERNTON under the caption "Contributors":

"CALVIN C. HERNTON, 30, resides in New York, educated at Talladega College and Fisk University".

HERNTON is also listed as an associate editor of "UMBRA" and the name, [redacted] appears as a member of the "Society of UMBRA".

2 - Bureau (100-417598) (RM)
2 - Memphis (100-3382) (RM)
1 - New York (100-) (UMBRA)
1 - New York [redacted]
1 - New York
1 - New York
1 - New York
1 - New York
1 - New York (100-151780)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/22/84 BY [illegible]
#221,137

100-417598

REC 23

CDB:mrm
(11)

60 NOV 18 1963

EX-108

11 NOV 12 1963

SUBV CONTROL

b6
b7C

NY 100-151780

Although NYO indices are negative on UMBRA, it is noted that it is published by MARZANI and MUNSELL Inc., 100 West 23rd Street, NYC. [redacted] are ST subjects of the NYO as are [redacted] who are listed as members of the "Society of UMBRA" and [redacted]

In view of the fact that the above publication states that CALVIN C. HERNTON was educated at Talladega College and Fisk University and in view of the fact that re report states that CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON was educated at the same institutions, New York is considering CALVIN C. HERNTON identical with CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON, Memphis file 100-3382.

Memphis is requested to furnish New York with any information as to HERNTON's residence in New York, it being noted that the above publication lists subject's residence as New York. A review of the NYC area telephone directories on 11/8/63, disclosed no listing for the subject or [redacted]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 05-25-2007 BY AUC 60324 BAW/RS/SEZ

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-417598) DATE: 12/27/63

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-151780) (C)

SUBJECT: CHANGED
CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON
SM-C

ReNYlet to Bureau, 11/8/63, and Memphis letter to NY, 11/20/63, captioned CALVIN HERNTON.

Title being changed to reflect full name of subject.

In view of the fact that CALVIN C. HERNTON is identical with CALVIN COOLIDGE HERNTON, Memphis file 100-3382, and in view of the fact that there is no specific subversive information concerning subject, no further investigation is being conducted by New York to determine the whereabouts of the subject.

Should any additional information come to the attention of the NYO concerning the subject which would warrant further investigation, the Bureau will be advised and the appropriate investigation will be conducted.

REC-40 100-417598-17

DEC 30 1963

(2) - Bureau (RM)
1 - New York

SUBV CONTROL

30 JAN 3 1964